hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Hartford, Connecticut - March 7, 2005

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir:

In regards to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance as set forth in the Examiner's Amendment dated December 12, 2004, the applicants respectfully disagree that the prior art of record renders any of the canceled claims unpatentable. Instead, certain of the claims have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, for possible inclusion in a continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Kramer

Registration No. 46, 302 Attorney for Applicants

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